GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3890
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2002
NTPC S PROJECTS
SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI;SUNDER LAL TIWARI

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of thermal power stations functioning in the country at present and the number out of them under the Union Government;

(b) the number of thermal power stations out of these causing damage to environment;

(c) the number of letters written to his Ministry by the Ministry of Environment and Forests in this regard during the last two years along with the details thereof;

(d) the steps taken so far by the Government to check the damage being caused to the environment; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) : There are 137 thermal power stations in the country having units of more than 20 MW size. Out of these, 29 thermal power stations are in Central Sector.

(b) : Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) have informed that 22 thermal power stations are adversely affecting the environment due to non-compliance of emission limits.

(c) to (e) : The pollution control standards stipulated by Ministry of Environment & Forests are regularly monitored by Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and State Pollution Control Board. Both the Ministry of Environment & Forests the Ministry of Power are regularly in touch with each other to ensure that power stations meet pollution control standards. The Ministry of Environment & Forests have also written to Ministry of Power in May, 2002 in this regard. In so far as NTPC power stations are concerned, all the emission and discharges are within the prescribed standards. The CEA have been pursuing with the various power stations authorities to keep the pollution level within the prescribed standards by taking suitable measures such as adjustments of operating parameters and upkeep of pollution control equipments. The 10th Plan Renovation & Modernisation programme formulated by CEA include the upgradation and installation of pollution and environment control equipments.